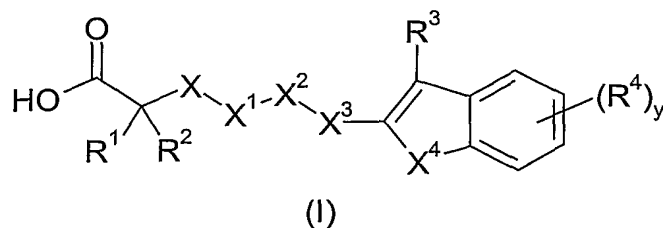


What is claimed is:

1. A compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, or hydrolysable ester thereof,

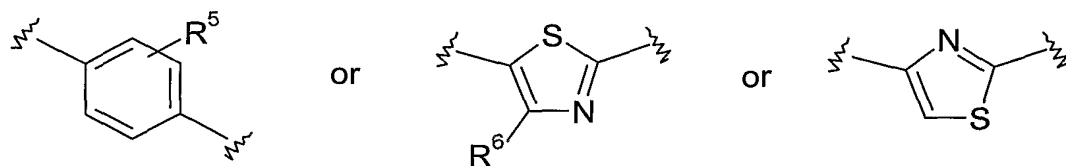


wherein:

R^1 and R^2 independently represent H or C_{1-3} alkyl;

X represents O, CH_2 , or a bond (i.e. is absent);

X^1 represents:



wherein R^5 represents H, C_{1-6} alkyl, halogen, $-OC_{1-3}$ alkyl, CF_3 ;

R^6 represents C_{1-3} alkyl or H;

X^2 is O or S;

X^3 is $-(CH_2)_n - CH(R^7)-$ or $CH_2 - CH = CH-$

wherein n is 0, 1 or 2; R^7 represents H or C_{1-6} alkyl, and the alkyl chain being optionally interrupted by one or more O atoms;

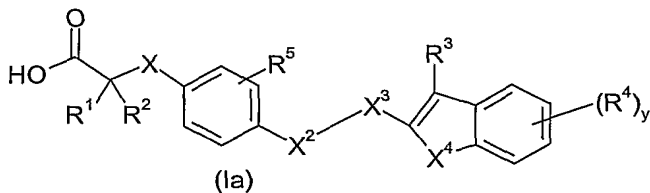
X^4 is S or O;

R^3 represents H or C_{1-6} alkyl;

R^4 represents H, CF_3 , C_{1-6} alkyl, halogen, or $-OC_{1-3}$ alkyl;

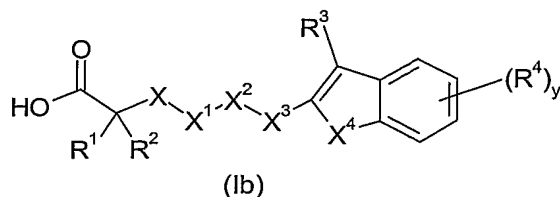
y is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4.

2. A compound of Formula (Ia) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or hydrolysable ester thereof:

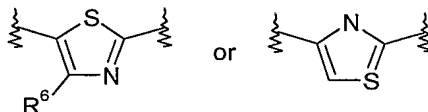


wherein X represents O, CH_2 , or a bond (ie is absent), R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , X^2 and X^3 and y are as defined in claim 1.

3. A compound of Formula (Ib) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or hydrolysable ester thereof:



wherein X^1 represents:



5 wherein X is a bond (ie) is absent), X^2 , X^3 , X^4 , R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 and R^6 are as defined in claim 1.

4. A compound according to claims 1 – 3 wherein each R^1 and R^2 is independently H or methyl.

5. A compound according to claim 4 wherein R^1 and R^2 are both H or both methyl.

6. A compound according to claim 5 wherein R^1 and R^2 are both H.

7. A compound according to claim 1 – 6 wherein X^2 is O or S.

8. A compound according to claims 1 – 7 wherein X^3 is $-(CH_2)_n-CH(R^7)$ wherein n is 0, 1, or 2 and R^7 is C_{1-4} alkyl, (methyloxy)ethyl propyloxy or H.

9. A compound according to claim 8 wherein n is 1 or 2.

10. A compound according to claim 9 wherein n is 2.

11. A compound according to claims 1 – 10 wherein R^3 is CH_3 or H.

12. A compound according to claims 1 – 11 wherein y is 0 or 1.

13. A compound according to claim 12 wherein y is 1.

14. A compound according to claims 1 – 13 wherein R^4 is CH_3 , CF_3 , OCH_3 or halogen.

15. A compound according to claim 1 – 14 selected from:

- [(4-{[3-(5-Bromo-3-methyl-1-benzothien-2-yl)propyl]thio}-2-methylphenyl)oxy]acetic acid
 [(4-{[3-(6-Bromo-3-methyl-1-benzothien-2-yl)propyl]thio}-2-methylphenyl)oxy]acetic acid
 {[2-Methyl-4-({[3-3-methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]propyl}thio)phenyl]oxy}acetic acid
 5 {[2-Ethyl-4-({[3-3-methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]propyl}thio)phenyl]oxy}acetic acid
 {[4-({[3-3-Ethyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]propyl}thio)-2-methylphenyl]oxy}acetic acid
 {[2-Ethyl-4-({[3-3-ethyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]propyl}thio)phenyl]oxy}acetic
 10 acid
 {[2-Methyl-4-({[3-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]propyl}thio)phenyl]oxy}acetic acid
 {[2-Ethyl-4-({[3-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]propyl}thio)phenyl]oxy}acetic acid
 {[2-(Trifluoromethyl)-4-({[3-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]propyl}thio)phenyl]oxy}acetic acid
 15 {[2-Ethyl-4-({[3-3-methyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]propyl}thio)phenyl]oxy}acetic acid
 2-Methyl-2-{[2-methyl-4-({[3-3-methyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]propyl}thio)phenyl]oxy}propanoic acid
 {[4-({[3-3-Methyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]propyl}thio)-2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]oxy}acetic acid
 20 {[2-Methyl-4-({(2E)-3-[3-methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]-2-propen-1-yl}thio)phenyl]oxy}acetic acid
 2-[(4-{[3-(6-Bromo-3-methyl-1-benzothien-2-yl)propyl]oxy}-2-methylphenyl)oxy]-2-methylpropanoic acid
 25 2-Methyl-2-{[2-methyl-4-({[3-3-methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]propyl}oxy)phenyl]oxy}propanoic acid
 2-Methyl-2-{[2-methyl-4-({[3-3-methyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]propyl}oxy)phenyl]oxy}propanoic acid
 {[2-Methyl-4-({[3-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]heptyl}thio)phenyl]oxy}acetic acid
 30 {[2-(Trifluoromethyl)-4-({[3-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]heptyl}thio)phenyl]oxy}acetic acid
 {[2-Methyl-4-({[3-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]heptyl}thio)phenyl]oxy}acetic acid
 {[2-Methyl-4-({[3-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]heptyl}oxy)phenyl]oxy}acetic acid
 {[2-Ethyl-4-({[3-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]heptyl}oxy)phenyl]oxy}acetic acid
 35 {[2-Methyl-4-({[3-3-methyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]hexyl}thio)phenyl]oxy}acetic acid
 [4-Methyl-2-({[3-3-methyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]hexyl}thio)-1,3-thiazol-5-yl]acetic acid
 {[2-Methyl-4-({[3-3-methyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]hexyl}oxy)phenyl]oxy}acetic acid
 40

- {[2-Ethyl-4-({3-[3-methyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]hexyl}oxy)phenyl]oxy}acetic acid
- {[2-Methyl-4-({3-[3-methyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]heptyl}thio)phenyl]oxy}acetic acid
- 5 [4-Methyl-2-({3-[3-methyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]heptyl}thio)-1,3-thiazol-5-yl]acetic acid
- {[2-Methyl-4-({3-[3-methyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]heptyl}oxy)phenyl]oxy}acetic acid
- {[2-Ethyl-4-({3-[3-methyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]heptyl}oxy)phenyl]oxy}acetic acid
- 10 [4-({3-[3-Methyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]heptyl}oxy)phenyl]acetic acid
- 3-[4-({3-[3-Methyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]heptyl}oxy)phenyl]propanoic acid
- [3-Chloro-4-({3-[3-methyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]heptyl}oxy)phenyl]acetic acid
- 15 [3-(Methyloxy)-4-({3-[3-methyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]heptyl}oxy)phenyl]acetic acid
- 3-[3-(Methyloxy)-4-({3-[3-methyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]heptyl}oxy)phenyl]propanoic acid
- [2-({3-[3-Methyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]heptyl}thio)-1,3-thiazol-4-yl]acetic acid
- 20 [4-({[3-(6-Fluoro-1-benzothien-2-yl)heptyl]oxy}-2-methylphenyl)oxy]acetic acid
- [4-({[3-(6-Fluoro-3-methyl-1-benzothien-2-yl)heptyl]oxy}-2-methylphenyl)oxy]acetic acid
- {[4-({3-[3-Ethyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]heptyl}oxy)-2-methylphenyl]oxy}acetic acid
- 25 [4-({[3-(5-Fluoro-3-methyl-1-benzothien-2-yl)heptyl]oxy}-2-methylphenyl)oxy]acetic acid
- [4-({[3-(6-Fluoro-3-methyl-1-benzothien-2-yl)heptyl]thio}-2-methylphenyl)oxy]acetic acid
- {[2-Methyl-4-({3-[3-methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]heptyl}thio)phenyl]oxy}acetic acid
- (2-{{3-(3,6-Dimethyl-1-benzofuran-2-yl)heptyl}thio}-4-methyl-1,3-thiazol-5-yl)acetic acid
- 30 [4-({[3-(3,6-Dimethyl-1-benzofuran-2-yl)heptyl]oxy}-2-methylphenyl)oxy]acetic acid
- [4-({[3-(3,6-Dimethyl-1-benzofuran-2-yl)heptyl]thio}-2-methylphenyl)oxy]acetic acid
- [4-Methyl-2-({3-[3-methyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzofuran-2-yl]heptyl}thio)-1,3-thiazol-5-yl]acetic acid
- {[2-Methyl-4-({3-[3-methyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzofuran-2-yl]heptyl}oxy)phenyl]oxy}acetic acid
- 35 {[2-Methyl-4-({3-[3-methyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzofuran-2-yl]heptyl}thio)phenyl]oxy}acetic acid
- [4-Methyl-2-({5-(methyloxy)-3-[3-methyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]pentyl}thio)-1,3-thiazol-5-yl]acetic acid

{[2-Methyl-4-({5-(methyloxy)-3-[3-methyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]pentyl}thio)phenyl]oxy}acetic acid

{[2-Methyl-4-({5-(methyloxy)-3-[3-methyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]pentyl}oxy)phenyl]oxy}acetic acid

5 {[2-Ethyl-4-({5-(methyloxy)-3-[3-methyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]pentyl}oxy)phenyl]oxy}acetic acid

[(2-Methyl-4-{[3-[3-methyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]-3-(propyloxy)propyl]thio}phenyl]oxy}acetic acid

10 [(2-Methyl-4-{[3-[3-methyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1-benzothien-2-yl]-3-(propyloxy)propyl]oxy}phenyl]oxy}acetic acid

[2-({3-[3-Methyl-6-(methyloxy)-1-benzothien-2-yl]heptyl}thio)-1,3-thiazol-4-yl]acetic acid

{[2-Methyl-4-({3-[3-methyl-6-(methyloxy)-1-benzothien-2-yl]heptyl}oxy)phenyl]oxy}acetic acid

15 [4-({3-[3-Methyl-6-(methyloxy)-1-benzothien-2-yl]heptyl}oxy)-3-(methyloxy)phenyl]acetic acid

16. A compound according to any of claims 1 – 15 for use in therapy.

20 17. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claims 1 – 16.

18. Use of a compound according to claims 1 – 16 for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a hPPAR disease or condition.

25 19. Use according to claim 18 wherein the hPPAR mediated disease or condition is dyslipidemia, syndrome X, heart failure, hypercholesteremia, cardiovascular disease, type II diabetes mellitus, type I diabetes, insulin resistance, hyperlipidemia, obesity, anorexia bulimia and anorexia nervosa.

30 20. A method of treating a hPPAR mediated disease or condition in a patient comprising the administration of a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claims 1 – 16.

35 21. A method according to claim 20 wherein the hPPAR mediated disease or condition is dyslipidemia, syndrome X, heart failure, hypercholesteremia, cardiovascular disease, type II diabetes mellitus, type I diabetes, insulin resistance, hyperlipidemia, obesity, anorexia bulimia and anorexia nervosa.